A PLEDGE OF SUICIDE.

Lieutenant Backus, U. S. A., It is Thought, Has Kept His Word.

HE WAS A VERY SCRUPULOUS MAN

And When He Wrote to the War De partment, "Strike My Name From the Rolls of the Army, I'm Going to Commit Sniclde," It Must Have Meant Something .-- A Brave and Faithful Army Officer.

New York, April 7 .- First Lieutenant George B. Backus, First United States calvary, wrote to the war department last Saturday: "Strike my name from the rolls of the army; I'm going to commit suicide."

The letter was dated from this city, where he has been for the past four months. Up to 7 o'clock yesterday morning Lieutenant Backus was very much alive. At that hour he left the Sturtevant house. Since then he has not been seen.

Lieutenant Backus' friends believe that he has carried out his threat, and several of them prepared to sit up all night to await the news of the finding of the body. Many other people who know the lieutenant do not believe that he has committed suicide.

has committed suicide.

Lieutenant Backus came to the Sturtevant house in January and took a room on the European plan. He did not come in contact with the clerks of the office as often as though he had been a regular boarder, but when he did meet them he always greeted them with a cheery "Good morning." But for days at a time he would never be seen about the hotel. During these days he kept to his room. This was a mystery for a time. Then it became known that the officer was suffering from neuralgia, and as an antidote for the pain he drew liberally on the supplies of the

These attacks of pain became more and more frequent, and the requisitions on the bar kept pace with the pain. In this connection it is only fair to state that the lieutenant never drank beyond his capacity, but he did drink heavily to deaden the pain that has tortured him for years. He was never intoxicat-ed from the effects of liquor, but he was frequently almost delirious from the

pain.

Between pain and the antidote he took for it, the lieutenant became careless of himself and of his friends. He avoided the latter and neglected him-self. His tall, soldierly figure began to droop, he allowed his beard to grow for a week at a time, and his clothes be-came rusty, if not absolutely shabby. He had many friends who came to see him at the hotel. For the first month or two most of them were convivial friends. Then these began to drop away and his true friends remained. A week ago these friends became alarmed and whispered to each other the fear that the lieutenant was not himself, and might be verging on insanity. They urged him to go into the country for a rest, but he refused. They knew that his leave of absence was coming that his leave of absence was coming to a close, and begged him to take some steps to have it extended, or to prepare himself to return to duty. He seemed to be indifferent to both propositions. It was patent to their eyes that he was in no condition to report for duty. A week ago Dr. Sternberg of the United States army was sent for, and after making an examination of the lieutenant, declared that he was not fit to perform the duties of his position. Whether his recommendation for an extension of leave was forwarded to headquarters was forwarded to headquarters or not is not known.
Why Lieutenant Backus should send

the message to the war department that he is said to have sent is a mystery to all his friends. The only way they to all his friends. The only way they account for it is on the hypothesis that he was crazy with pain at the time and did not really know what he was doing. It had probably escaped his memory until the publication of the dispatch from Washington yesterday morning telling of the receipt of his letter and the apprehension felt at headquarters as to his safety. After reading this publication he disappeared.

Lieutenant Guy Howard, who is stationed at Governor's Island, said yesterday that no word had been received from Washington in regard to the disappearance of Lieutenant Backus, and that was an indication that no fear was

that was an indication that no fear was entertained atheadquarters that he had carried out his threat. At the same carried out his threat. At the same time, an army officer began an inquiry at the Sturtevant House at 9 o'clock last night, and, while he would not admit the fact, it was understood that he was detailed for the duty on orders from Washington.

Lieutenant McDonald, who belongs to Lieutenant Backus' regiment, now detailed to duty at Governors Island, said yesterday that he had met Backus on the street on last Saturday. the day

said yesterday that he had het Backus on the street on last Saturday, the day that his letter was mailed to Washington. Lieutenant Backus seemed to be in his normal mind, and did not indicate in any way a desire to quit the world. He told Lieutenant McDonald that he had not been out of his bed for two weeks. This, is denied by the people at the hotel. ple at the hotel.

The understanding of the few army officers with whom Lieutenant Backus

came in contact during his stay in the city was that he had come to New York for treatment for his neuralgia, to which he had been a victim for years. They heard that he was to have certain nerves in his head removed, but there is no record of such an operation.

The army friends of Lieutenant Backus, who fear that he carried out his threat to take his life yesterday, say that he was a very nunctilines.

that he was a very punctillious man, and may feel that he is in honor bound to make good his word to the department. They hope, however, that he will recover his mental balance and return to his friends.
Lieutenant Backus was not a member of the United Service Club, No. 16 West

Thirty-first street. Many officers of that exclusive club knew the lieutenant, however, and speak of him as a brave officer but a very eccentric man.

One reason assigned for the lieutenant's threat to take his life is that he feared discipline for everystaying his

ant's threat to take his life is that he feared discipline for overstaying his leave of absence. This is not the first time he has done so. In 1888 he was swo months overdue, and was court-martialed, and sentenced to be reduced two files. But for this sentence he would have been a captain to-day.

Lieutenant Backus is a Pennsylvanian, and was graduated from the Military Academy in 1875, having received his appointment from Colorado in 1871. He was assigned to the First Cavalry in 1875, and served on the Pacific Coast

1875, and served on the Practic Coast with his regiment until 1884, when his command was transferred to Fort Keogh, Mont., where his company is now stationed. He served with distinction and bravery during the Brannock Indian war of 1878.

in New York for several days, has turned up. He seems not right in his head, and was unable to give a coherent account of his wanderings.

SENATOR SHERMAN Surs it Will be Harrison and Cleveland. Mill's Silver Vlews n Mystery.

New (York, April 7 .- Senator John Sherman was at the Fifth Avenue, hotel yesterday afternoon, "It looks now," Mr. Sherman said, "as if the candidates of 1888 would be the candidates of 1892-Harrison against Cleve-

land again."
"What impression has Senator Hill
made in the senate?" Mr. Shorman was

asked. "He has made none, for he has said nothing yet," replied Mr. Sherman. "It is not an unusual thing, however, for a new senator to take little or no part in

debate."

"Will the silver question come before the senate again?"

"Yes, it may come at any time. Senator Morga u's resolution is now on the calendar. It must take its turn unless it is called up out of order. To do, this would require a vote which would be practically a test on the main question, and a vote on a motion of this kind would be satisfactory to us. The would be satisfactory to us. The friends of free coinage, however, will not be satisfied with a vote of that kind, but insist on a vote on the direct ques-

"Would a free Bilver measure pass the senate? "The senators do not tell each other

how they are hoing to vote. Many would like to know for instance which way Senator Hill will vote," replied Senator Sherman.

J. SLOAT FASSETT

Thinks the New York Delegation to Min-neapolis Will Bo Uninstructed.

New York, April \7,--J. Sloat Fassett was at the Fifth avenue hotel to-day. He had just come from a visit of some weeks in the south. He was in Georgia, Florida and Virginia, and on his return stopped for several days in Washington, where he had conferences with Senator Hiscock and others who are interested in Republican politics in this state. Mr. Fassett said he believed that the Mr. Publican convention in this state which elects delegates to the Minneapolis convention would not instruct. vention would not instruct them for any candidate. Whatever might be the wish of the ardent supporters of the present administration; at Washington in this respect, Mr., Fassett said he thought the delegation would not be

"Who do you think will be the Dem-ocratic candidate?" Dir. Fassett was

asked.
"To use an expression common to To use an expression common to the late Mr. Tilden, the 'userract' will be Mr. Cleveland," he replied. "The impression seems to be growing that Mr. Cleveland will be the choice of the party."

REV. L. H. JAMESON DEAD.

One of the Best Known Christian Ministers in the Country.

INDIANAPOLIS, IND., April 7 .- Rev. Love II. Jameson, the most widely known Christian minister in Indiana, and probably in the United States, died at his residence in this city last night. Rev. Jameson was born in Indiana in 1811, while it was yet a territory. He was a member of the G. A. R. and the Tippecanoe Club.

A MULTINETO DONA.

FAIR HAVEN, WASHN, April 7—Eugene Canfield, millionaire of this place, died to-day of appoplexy. He was formerly state senator from Waynecounty,

New York, April 7.—As a result of the settlement between the Pelhain Hod Hoisting Company and the board of walking delegates of the building trades

about 4,000 mechanics-resumed work this morning. The strike was owing to the company's employment of non-union men. The company has sus-pended the non-union men for an in-definite period. Before 10 o'clock to-day all the men on strike had returned

Boston Merchants Endorso Lodge's Action Boston, April 7 .- At a meeting of the directors of the Boston Merchants yesterday a resolution was unanimously adopted heartily indorsing the action of Congressman Lodge in the introduc-tion of his measure against the further purchase of silver bullion and the issue of treasury notes thereon, until a treaty shall be ratified with foreign powers for the re-opening of their mints concur-rently with those of the United States

Massachusetts' Fast Day.

Boston, April 7:-To-day was appoint ed by Governor Russell as a fast day and is being generally observed as a holiday throughout the state. Dusiness is suspended, banks and exchanges closed and no evening editions of the newspapers are published.

New Hampshire is also observing last day appointed for to-day by Governor Tuttle.

Hill Losing His Grip.

ALBANY, N. Y., April 7 .- Hon. Wm. Brown, of the battery district, New York, and young Charles Walker, of Corning, have taken umbrage at a published interview with Senator Hill this morning they voted with the Re-publicans in the scante in a determined effort to block, the congressional reap-portionment bill.

A Suicide Identified.

PORTLAND, Mr., April 7 .- A commercial traveler who went by the name of Watson, died in a hotel in Rockland last week and all efforts to find any friends or relatives failed. It is now stated that he has been identified as General Stedman said to have been a noted cavalry officer during the war, who fell into disgrace and disappeared.

A Nickel Trust.

SUNBURY, ONT., April 7.-Efforts are being made here to organize a nickel trust to control the entire output of nickel on a basis similar, to the copper combine of the United States. The plan of the syndicate is to purchase all valuable nickel ble nickel properties in the district. Ole Bull's Daughter.

Boston, Mass., April 7,—It is announced that Miss Ole Bull, daughter of the violinist, has gone upon the stage, having been ongaged to support Miss Julia Marlowe.

Only Right to Tell. The Rev. Mark Guy Pearse, the emi-

with his regiment until 1884, when his command was transferred to Fort Keogh, Mont., where his company is now stationed. He served with distinction and bravery during the Brannock Indian war of 1878.

LATER—HE TURNS UP.

A later dispatch says: Lieutenant Backus, U. S. A., who has been missing

THE SCOTCH-IRISH CONGRESS, Which Meets in Atlanta April 28, with Eclipse All Former Gatherings of the

The fourth annual congress of the Scotch-Irish Society of America will convene in Atlanta on April 28, and remain in session three days. The Atlanta Scotch-Irish society is making great preparations for the event, and the indications are that the meeting will be the most interesting and the best attended in the history of the

Five thousand engraved invitations have been printed from steel plates and mailed to prominent people on both sides of the Atlantic. Two thousand newspaper editors are among this num-ber, and some of the most distinguished men in the United States have accepted invitations to address the congress.

The programme includes addresses by Colonel A. K. McClure, editor of the Philadelphia Times, Hon. James E. McKenzie, of Hopkinsville, Ky., one of the vice presidents of the World's Columvice presidents of the World's Columbian Exposition; Dr. Francis L. Patton, president of Princeton University; Dr. John Hall, of New York; Hon. James McDill, who succeeded Judge Cooley on the Inter-State Commerce Commission; Mr. Henry Wallace, of Des Moines, Iowa; Hon. Pat Calhoun, of Atlanta; Dr. J. H. Bryson, of Huntsville, Ala., and other distinguished speakers yet to be announced. be announced.

One of the most enjoyable features of the proceedings will be a number of ten the proceedings will be a number of ten minute speeches by some of the wittiest and brainiest men in the country—among them. Major Charles II. Smith (Bill Arp), Corporal G. W. Adair, the famous wit of Atlanta, and a number whose name have not been announced. No address will be inore than forty minutes long, and the ten-minute speeches will be in the proportion of two or three for every longer address.

Reduced railroad rates have been secured, and from all points south of the

cured, and from all points south of the Ohio and east of the Mississippi, one and one-third fare return tickets will be on sale. The same or approximate rates from points beyond. President Harrison, ex-President Cleveland, Secretary Blaine, Governor McKinley, ex-Governor Campbell, Governor Buchanan and many other distinguished Scotch-Irishmen will be invited. Special rates have been secured at the

Atlanta hotels, and everything will be done to make the stay of visitors pleasant.

pleasant.

Many applications for membership are being received, and this meeting presents a favorable time for persons of Scotch-Irish lineage to affiliate with their brethren and kinsmen. The attendance is not limited to members.

The objects of the seciety as historical The objects of the society are historical, educational and social. It is strictly non-partisan and non-sectarian. The only requisites for membership are Scotch-Irish blood, in any degree, good character, and nominal dues, for which members receive the valuable historical works issued by the society. Send applications for membership and for further information to

A. C. Floyd, See'y Nat'l Society, Columbia, Tenn. Т. И. Р. Вьоорwонти, Local Secretary, Atlanta, Ga.

Dynamite Plot in Texas

Belton, Texas, April 7 .- About ten o'clock last night an explosion of dyna-mite placed under the steps of the Bay-lor Female College here, destroyed them but did no other damage. The cause of the crime is unknown.

Denfuess Can't be Cured.

by local applications, as they can not reach the diseased portion of the ear. There is only one way to cure deafness, and that is by constitutional remedies. Deafness is caused by an inflamed condition of the mucous lining of the custachian tube. When this tube gets inflamed you have a rumbling sound or imperfect hearing, and when it is en-tirely closed deafness is the result, and unless the inflammation can be taken out and this tube restored to its normal condition, hearing will be destroyed forever; nine cases out of ten are caused by catarrh, which is nothing but an in flamed condition of the mucous sur-

face.
We will give one hundred dollars for that we can not cure by taking Hall's Catarrh Cure. Send tor circulars, free.

F. J. Cheney & Co., Toledo, O. Sold by druggists, 75c.

A case of the United States against a Chicago bank for \$50,000 damages has been pending in the courts for fifteen

One of my children had a very bad discharge from her nose. Two physicians drescribed, but without benefit. We tried Elv's Cream Balm, and, much to our surprise, there was a marked improvement. We continued using the Balm and in a short time the discharge was cured.—C. A. Cary, Corning, N. Y.

The artistic work of the spider in spinning his web is shown by the fact that it takes 30,000 of the fine strands to cover an inch of space.

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If you are not feeling strong and healthy, try Electric Bitters. If "La Grippe" has left you weak and weary, use Electric Bitters. This remedy acts directly on liver, stomach and kidneys, gently aiding those organs to perform their functions. If you are afflicted with sick headache, you will find speedy and permanent relief by taking Electric Bitters. One trial will convince you that this is the remedy you need. Large bottles only 50c, at Logan Drug Co.'s drug store.

6 Co.'s drug store.

Some American surnames in Maine are peculiar. For instance, Coolbroth, Youngbaby, Lovely, Law, Look, Sensa-bough, Comforth, Suckforth, Skeetop,

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for relieving prolonged and painful suppression of the menstrual periods, they are the only safe and certain cure ever offered to women, they are especially made for married ladies, safe and always to be relied upon. Be sure you ask for Dr. Mott's Pennyroyal Pilis. They are the genuine, \$1 per box, sent by mail. Dr. Mott's Chemical Co., Cleveland, O. For Sale by Logan Drug Co.

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PROPOSALS.

NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS !

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF ORIO COUNTY, WHEKLISO, W. VA. April 6, 1832.

Scaled proposals will be received at this office until the 20th inst, at \$0 o'check a.m., for the following county work, to be done during the present year, upon the toads made, and the present year, upon the toads made.

Regas' Hill, Eprincer's and Bushield's, Triadelphia district, Scale by ards mecadamizing.

Langel Run and Ebringer's, Triadelphia district, 150 cubic yards of macadamizing.

Liversyallic, Clinton and Potomac, Richland district, 220 cubic yards of macadamizing between the property of the property

Monument and Big Wheeling, so cuble yards inaccidentisting.
Pegue's Run, 57 ouble yards macadamizing.
Peter's Run, Triadelphia district, 250 cuble yards macadamizing.
Peter's Run, Richland district, 40 cuble yards nuccidentisting out full, and 40 cuble yards on Run.
300

Mun. 2006.
Teninsula, 223 cuble yards macadamizing.
Aiver road. first division, 280 cuble yards macadamizing.
Hice and Castleman's Run, 210 cuble yards macadamizing.
Stone Chuch, 320, Cuble yards macadamizing.
Short Creek, North Fork, 370 cuble yards macadamizing.

Short Creek, South Fork, 220 cubic yards ma-

cadamizing.

Short Ureck, South, Fork, 220 cubic yards macadamizing.

Valley Grove and Middle Wheeling Creek, Liberty district, 250 cubic yards macadamizing.

Wheeling, West-Liberty and Bethany, National road to Gregsyilld, 3:30 cubic yards of macadamizing.

Wheeling, West-Liberty and Bethany, second division, 190 cubic yards macadamizing.

Wheeling, West-Liberty and Bethany, second division, 190 cubic yards macadamizing cast of school house.

Wheeling and Ellif Grove, Richie district, 23) cubic yards macadamizing, rest of school house.

Wheeling and Lairmont, 325 cubic yards macadamizing; 180 cubic yards macadamizing; second two miles, 250 cubic yards macadamizing; second two miles, 175 cubic yards macadamizing.

Roges' fall, Springer and Bushfield's, Richland district, 65 cubic yards macadamizing.

Bixthe Grove and Bogs's hill, 290 cubic yards macadamizing.

Elm Grove and Bogs's hill, 290 cubic yards macadamizing.

Glunor's crossing to Patterson's hill, 210 cubic yards macadamizing.

Glunor's crossing to Patterson's hill, 210 cubic yards macadamizing.

Gilmore's crossing to Patterson's hill, 220 cubic yards macendamiging.

Gilenn's Rum and Cherry hill, 120 cubic yards macendamiging.

Rice and Wiedemann, 10 cubic yards bridge masonry and 490 cubic yards grading.

Romey's Point to R. S. and B., 120 cubic yards macendamiging.

Reilly and Delaplain, 75 cubic yards macendamiging.

Waddle and Warden's Rum, 330 cubic yards macendamigne. meadamizing. West Liberty and Harvey's, 180 cubic yards

macadamizing.
West liberty and Castleman's Run, 150 cubic yards macadamizing.
Wheeling and Ridge, 200 cubic yards macadamizing: Wneeling and Elm Grove Triadelphia district,

mining.

Wheeling and Elm Grove Triadelphia district, 10 cubic yards macadamizing.

Brown & Run, Triadelphia district, 60 cubic yards macadamizing.

Brown & Run, Richland district, 40 cubic yards macadamizing.

Trestlework to Rodgers', 70 cubic yards macadamizing.

Hours Run, 45 cubic yards macadamizing.

Hours Run, 45 cubic yards macadamizing.

Hours roke and solid rock, and must be by the cubic yard for each class of material.

Macadamizing is to be of hard blue or gray limestone, broken to pass through a three-inch ring any and every way.

Above quantities are approximate only, and are liable to be changed.

Proposals should be endorsed "Proposals for county Work," and must state full names of bidders, with postoffice address, and must be accompanied by the names of two responsible parties who will become sureties for the faithful performance of contracts, if warded.

For further information apply at this office, or at the office of W. C. Smith, County Engineer, its Chapline street.

The Board reserves the right to reject any of all bids.

HENRY H. PENDLETON.

ap6-naw Clerk Board of Gommissioners.

HOURTH OF JULY PICKIC. Proposals will be received by the Secretary of the State Fair for the

USE OF THE FAIR GROUNDS On the Fourth day of July, 1892, for Picnic, &c., Bids to close Monday, April 11, 1892, at 2 p. m.

GEO. HOOK. Secretary West Va. State Fair, Wheeling W. Va.

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